

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 W

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R 161448Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1196

UNCLAS LAGOS 09061

E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : BEXP, NI

SUBJ : MAJOR PROJECT: INQUIRY ABOUT ROAD PROJECT

REF : STATE 204231

1. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY 1200 MILE ROAD PROJECT MENTIONED REFTEL. AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTRY OF WORKS OFFICIAL, BELIEVE IT MAY BE THE REHABILITATION OF ONE OR MORE SEGMENTS OF THE 16,000 KILOMETERS OF TRUNK "B" ROADS WHICH WAS TAKEN OVER THIS YEAR BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. EVEN THEN THE PRACTICE HAS BEEN TO DIVIDE THESE PROJECTS INTO SMALLER "PACKAGES" OF 100-250 MILE SEGMENTS WHICH ARE PUT OUT TO OPEN COMPETITIVE TENDER.

2. IN PAST YEARS NIGERIAN ROAD AUTHORITIES, BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE, IN THEIR HASTE TO COMPLETE ROAD PROJECTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AWARDED A NUMBER OF CONTRACTS ON A TURN-KEY BASIS, WHEREBY A SINGLE FIRM WAS AWARDED BOTH ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASES OF THE PROJECT. THIS PROCEDURE HAS PROVED LESS THAN SATISFACTORY. ALTHOUGH THE WORK WAS DONE FASTER THE END RESULT WAS OFTEN OF SUBSTANDARD QUALITY. THERE NOW APPEARS TO BE A MOVEMENT BACK TO THE CONCEPT OF INDEPENDENT ENGINEERS TO ACT AS SUPERVISORS OVER THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS.

THIS HAS OPENED UP NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR AMERICAN
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CONSULTANTS. INTERESTED PARTIES OR COMPANIES

SHOULD WRITE TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, FEDERAL
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING, TAFAWA BALEWA SQUARE,
LAGOS, NIGERIA, EXPRESSING THEIR INTEREST IN
OFFERING NIGERIA, CONSULTING SERVICES AND ASKING
FOR THE RELEVANT QUESTIONNAIRES TO BE SENT TO THEM.

3. IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE
CONTRACTS IN NIGERIA, BOTH ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUC-
TION COMPANIES MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE RESPECTIVE
STATE OR FEDERAL WORKS REGISTRATION BOARD.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS09061
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750320-1168
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750948/aaaabqsp.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 204231
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : MAJOR PROJECT: INQUIRY ABOUT ROAD PROJECT
TAGS: BEXP, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006